

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated March 27, 2006, is respectfully requested in view of this amendment. By this amendment, claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-24 are pending in this application.

Claims 1 and 8 been amended by adding language describing the display section displaying collectively a plurality of image information as a group, and wherein the display section enables display of a plurality of groups exclusively. Claim 15 has been amended to describe outputted from a multicolor image output apparatus by combining a plurality of groups displayed collectively exclusively at the display apparatus. The above language clarifies the text previously submitted, and finds support in the Specification, including at page 19, line 17 - page 20, line 7. Therefore, the above amendments introduce no new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-8, 11-16 and 18-20 over prior art. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11-13, 16, 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Masuzaki (US 5,150,458). Claims 7, 14 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Masuzaki. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Masuzaki taken in view of Speciner (US 5,959,867). These rejections, as applied to the amended claims, are respectfully traversed.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the above changes clarifies the distinction of the claimed invention over the prior art of record. Specifically the amended claims make clear the main feature added in the last amendment, filed December 30, 2005, "The display section collectively displays a

plurality of image information that constructs each original monochromatic image", according to the following Applicant's Features, designated AF:

(Feature AF1) The display section collectively displays the group of image information of each original monochromatic image as a group;

(Feature AF2) The display section exclusively displays a plurality of groups.

These features 1) and 2) directly address solving the problems set forth in the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION of the present specification and are further disclosed in Fig. 9 and the corresponding parts of the specification. By the use of the terminology, "exclusively", the display is performed without superimposing a plurality of groups.

In the Final Office Action, the features of Fig. 10 of the present invention are compared with the display screen (15) shown in Figs. 6A-F of Masuzaki (US 5,150,458). It is respectfully submitted that this is a misinterpretation of the features of Applicant's invention, both as set forth in the claims and as depicted in Fig. 10. The present invention provides a preview display that accomplishes features AF1 and AF2, above; that is:

1) The display section (20) collectively displays the plurality of image information 21a (page 1) - 21e (page 6) or 22a (page 1) - 22d (page 6) of each original monochromatic image as a group (INPUT DATA FILE 1 or INPUT DATA FILE 2);

2) The display section (20) exclusively displays a plurality of groups (INPUT DATA FILE 1 and INPUT DATA FILE 2). In other words, FILE 1 and FILE 2 are not superimposed on the display screen (20) in the preview process.

FILE 1 of the present invention corresponds to ORIGINAL IMAGE DATA (11) of the Masukai patent, and FILE 2 of the present invention corresponds to ORIGINAL IMAGE DATA (12) of the Masukai patent. It is clear that as shown in Fig. 1 of the Masukai patent, these data (11) and (12) are stored in IMAGE MEMORY (13) and therefore they are not objects to be

displayed on DISPLAY SCREEN (15). Therefore, it is submitted that the claimed features AF1 and AF2 are not disclosed in the Masukai patent.

Corresponding language appears in Applicant's independent claims, which describe:

"... plurality of image information of each of the plurality of desired original monochromatic images selected by the image-formation apparatus as a group, and wherein the display section enables display of a plurality of groups exclusively."
(Text from claim 1; claims 8 and 15 have similar limitations.)

It is submitted that the claims as now presented clarify the implementation of these features, as described in our prior amendment.

Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and the case be passed to issuance.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner indicated that claims 17 and 21-24 would be allowable if written into independent form. Applicants appreciate this determination of allowability.

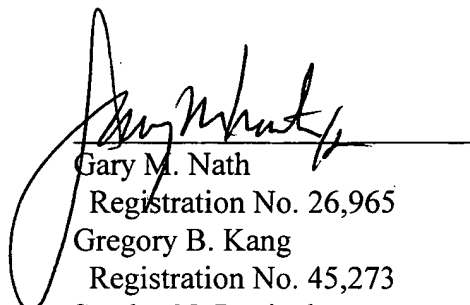
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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